# TAFT'S MESSAGE TO 62ND CONGRESS

(Continued from page two.)

1910, from the United States, \$11,615,982, or 30 per cent of the \$39,025,667 total, against \$5,193,419 from the United States, or 18 per cent of the \$28,948,011 total for the year ending August, 1909.

## PORTO RICO.

The year has been one of prosperity and progress in Porto Rico Certain political changes are embodied in the bill "To provide a civil government for Porto Rico and for other purposes," which passed the house of representatives on June 15, 1910, at the last session of Congress, and is now awaiting the action of the

The importance of those features of this bill relating to public health and sanitation cannot be over-estimated. The removal from politics of judiciary by providing for the ap-pointment of the municipal judges is excellent, and I recommend that a step further be taken by providing step further be taken by providing therein for the appointment of secretaries and marshals of these courts.

I believe that the provision in the hill for a partially elective senate, the number of elective members being progressively increased, is unwise, and that the composition of the senate as provided in the bill as introduced in the house far better meets, conditions.

the house far better meets conditions evicting in Porto Rico. This is an important measure, and I recommend its early consideration and passage.

#### RIVERS AND HARBORS.

I have already expressed my opinior to Congress in respect to the charac-ter of the river and harbor bills which should be enacted into law; and I have exercised as much power as I have under the law in directing the chief of engineers to make his reports to Congress conform to the needs of the committee framing such a bill in de-termining which of the proposed im-provements is the more important and ought to be completed first, and

#### PANAMA CANAL.

At the instance of Col. Goethals, the army engineer officer in charge of the work on the Panama canal, I have just made a visit to the isthmus to inspect the work done and to consult with him on the ground as to certain problems which are likely to arise in the near future. The progress of the work is most satisfactory. If no unexpected obstacle presents, itself the canal will be completed well within the time fixed by Col Goethals, to wit, Jan. 1, 1915, and within the estimate of cost, \$375,000,000.

Press reports have reached the United States from time to time giving accounts of sildes of earth of very large yardage in the Culebra cut and elsewhere along the line, from which it might be inferred that the work has been much retarded and that the time of completion has been necessari-

ly postponed.

The report of Dr. Hayes, of the geological survey, whom I sent within the last month to the isthmus to make an investigation shows that this section of the canal zone is composed of sedimentary rocks of rather weak structure and subject to almost im-mediate disintegration when exposed to the knife Subsequent to the de-position of these sediments, igne-ous rocks, harder and more durable, have been thrust into them, and being cold at the time of their in-trusion united but indifferently with the sedimentary rock at the contacts The result of these conditions is that as the cut is deepened, causing un-balanced pressures, slides from the sides of the cut have occurred.

WHERE SLIDES OCCUR. These are in part due to the flowing of surface soil and decomposed sedimentary rocks upon inclined surfaces of the underlying undecomposed rock and in part by the crushing of structurally weak beds under excessive pressure. These slides occur on one distance of four or five miles, and now that their character is understood al. lowance has been made in the calcula-tions of yardage for the amount of slides which will have to be removed and the greater slope that will have to be given to the bank in many places in order to prevent their recurrence Such allowance does not exceed 10 millions of yards. Considering that the number of yards removed from this cut on an average of each month through the year is 1,300,000, and that the total remaining to be excavated, including slides, is about 30,000,000 yards. it is seen that this addition to the ex does not offer any great reason for delay.

While this feature of the material to be excavated in the cut will not seriously delay or obstruct the construction of a canal of the lock type, the increase of excavation due to such slides in the cut made \$5 feet deeper for a sea level canal would certainly have been so great as to delay its comp time beyond the patience of the American people.

QUESTION OF FORTIFICATION. Among questions arising for present solution is the decision whether the canal shall be fortified. I have al-ready stated to the Congress that I strongly favor fortification and I now reiterate this opinion and as your consideration of the subject in the light of the report already before you made

by a competent board.

If, in our discretion, we believe modern fortifications to be necessary to the adequate protection and policing of the canal, then it is our duty to construct them. We have built the canal. It is our property. By convention we have indicated our desire for, and indeed undertaken, its universal and equal use. is also well known that one of the chief objects in the construction tary effectiveness of our navy, Failure to fortify the canal would leave the attainment of both these aims

#### BREAKS UP A COLD IN SEVERAL HOURS

There is not one grain of quinine in Pape's Cold Compound, which when taken every two hours, until three consecutive doses are taken, will surely end the grippe and break up the most severe cold, either in the head, chest, back, stomach or limbs. It promptly relieves the most mis-erable neuralgia pains, headache, dullness, head and nose stuffed up, fever-ishness, sneezing, sore throat, running of the nose, catarrhal affections, sore-ness, stiffness and rheumatic twinges. Pape's Cold Compound is the resuit of three years' research at a cost of more than fifty thousand dollars, and contains no quinine, which we have conclusively demonstrated is not effective in the treatment of colds or

Take this harmless Compound as directed, with the knowledge that there is no other medicine made any-where else in the world which will where else in the world which will cure your cold or end Grippe misery as promptly and without any other assistance or bad after-effects as a 25 cent package of Pape's Cold Compound, which any druggist in the any druggist in the world can supply.

in the position of rights and obligations which we should be powerless to enwhich we should be powerless to en-force and which could never in any other way or absolutely safeguarded against a desperate and irresponsible

## CANAL TOLLS.

Another question which arises for consideration and possible legislation is the question of tolls in the canal. This question is necessarily affected by the probable tonnage which will go through the canal. It is all a matter of estimate, but one of the government commission in 1900 investigated the question and made a report. He concluded that the total tonnage of the vessels employed in commerce that could use the Isthmian canal in 1914 would amount to 6,843,805 tons net register, and that this traffic would increase 25.1 per cent per decade; that it was not probable that all the commerce included in the totals would at once abandon the routes at present followed and make use of the new canal, and that it might take some time, perhaps two years, to readjust trade with reference to the new conditions which the canal would establish. He did not include, moreover, the tonnage of war years, although the tonnage of war years, although the console although the cons include, would establish. He did not include, moreover, the tonnage of war vessels, although it is to be inferred that such vessels would make considerable use of the canal. In the matter of tolls he reached the conclusion that a dollar n net ton would not drive business away from the canal, but that a higher rate would do so.

## MUST BE REASONABLE

In determining what the tolls should be we certainly ought not to insist that for a good many years to come they should amount to enough to pay the interest on the investment of \$400,000,000 which the United States has made for the construction of the canal. We ought not to do this, first, because the benefits to be derived by the United States from this expenditure is not to be measured solely by a return upon the investment. If it were then the construction might well have been left to private enterprise. It was because an adequate return upon the money nvested could not be expected immed ately, or in the near future, and be cause there were peculiar political advantages to be derived from the construction of the canal that it necessarily fell to the government to advance the money and perform the work.

## AN ACTIVE COMPETITOR.

In addition to the benefit to our naval strength, the canal greatly in-creases the trade facilities of the United States. It will undoubtedly cheapen the rates of transportation in all freight between the eastern and western seaboards and it will greatly increase that trade by reason of the re-duction in its cost. Then, if we are duction in its cost. Then, if we are to have a world canal, and if we are anxious that the routes of the world's trade shall be through the Panama canal, we must recognize that we have an active competitor in the Suez cu and active completion in the Sucz care and relations of crossing the isthmus—by the Tehuantepee railroad and by other railroads and freight routes in Central America to the Atlantic side.

WHAT TOLLS SHOULD BE.

In all these cases the question whether the Panama canal is to be used and its tonnage increased will be deterits tonnage increased will be determined mainly by the charge for its use. My own impression is that the tolls ought not to exceed \$1 per ton. On Jan. 1, 1911, the tolls in the Suez canal are to be 7 francs and 25 centimes for one net ton by Suez canal measurement, which is a modification of Danbe measurement. A dollar a ton will ube measurement. A dollar a ton will secure under the figures above a gross income from the Panama canal of near ly \$7,000,000. The cost of maintenance and operation is estimated to exceed \$3,000,000. Ultimately, of course, with the normal increase in trade, the income will approximate the interest charges upon the investment. On the whole, I should recommend that within certain limits the president be authorized to fix the tolls of the canal and adjust them to what seems to be com-mercial necessity. The inquiries al-ready made of the chief engineers of the canal show that the present con-sidration of this question is necessary in order that the commerce of the world may have time to adjust itself to the new conditions resulting from the opening of this new highway.

GENERAL CONTROL The next question that arises is as to the maintenance, management and general control of the canal after its completion. It should be premised that it is an essential part of our navy establishment to have the coal, oil and other ship supplies, a dry dock and repair shops, conveniently located with reference to naval vessels passing through the canal. Now, if the government, for naval purposes, is to under take to furnish these conveniences to the navy, and they are convenience equally required by commercial vessels, there would seem to be strong reasons why the government should take over and include in its management the furnishing, not only to the navy but to the public dry dock and repair shop

acilities, and the sale of coal, oil and other ship supplies. LARGE FORCE NEEDED.

The maintenance of a lock canal of this enormous size in a sparsely populated country and in the tropics, wher the danger of disease is always pres ent, requires a large and complete and well trained organization with full po-lice powers, exercising the utmost care The visitor to the canal who is impressed with the wonderful freedom from tropical diseases on the isthmus must not be misled as to the constant vigilance that is needed to preserve this condition. The vast machinery of the locks, the necessary amount of dredging, the preservation of the banks of the canal from slides, the operation and maintenance of the equipment of the railway—will all require a force, not, of course, to be likened in any way to the present organization for construction, but a skilled body of men who can keep n a state of usefulness this great in strument of commerce. Such an organi-zation makes it easy to include within its functions the furnishing of dry dock, fuel, repairs and supply facilities to the trade of the world. These will be more essential at the Isthmus of Panama than they are at Port Said or Suez, because there are no depots for coal, sup-plies, and other commercial necessities within thousands of miles of the isth-

REASON FOR GOVERNMENT

CONTROL. Another important reason why these ancillary duties may well be underaken by the government is the oppor tunity for discrimination between pa-trols of the canal that is offered where private concessions are granted for the furnishing of these facilities. Nothing would create greater prejudice against the canal than the suspicion that certain lines of traffic were favored in the furnishing of supplies or that the sup-plies were controlled by any large interest that might have a motive for increasing the cost of the use of the mini are not ample enough to permit the fullest competition in respect to the furnishing of these facilities and neces-sities to the world's trade even if it were wise to invite such competition and the granting of the concession would necessarily, under these circum-stances, take on the appearance of priv-

## ilege or monopoly.

A WISE SUGGESTION. I cannot close this reference to the canal without suggesting as a wise amendment to the interstate commerce law a provision prohibiting interstate commerce railroads from owning or controlling ships engaged in the trade

through the Papama canal. I believe such a provision may be needed to save to the people of the United States the benefits of the competition in trade etween the eastern and western seapoards which this canal will be con-

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

The duties of the department of justice have been greatly increased by legislation of Congress enacted in the interest of the general welfare of the people and extending its activities into avenues plainly within its constitutional jurisdiction, but which it has not been thought wise or necessary for the general government heretofore to occupy I am glad to say that under the appropriations made for the department he attorney-general has so improved ts organization that a vast amount o Itigation of a civil and criminal char-eter has been disposed of during the current year. 'I invite especial atten-ion to the prosecutions under the fedral law of the so-called "buckel diops," and of those schemes to defraud in which the use of the mail is an es-sential part of the fraudulent conspircy, prosecutions which have saved igporant and weak members of the pub-ic and are saving them hundreds or millions of dollars. The violations of the anti-trust law present perhaps the most important litigation before the department, and the number of cases filed shows the activity of the govern-ment in enforcing that statute.

## NATIONAL INCORPORATION.

In a special message last year I brought to the attention of Congress the propriety and wisdom of enacting a general law providing for the in-corporation of industrial and other companies engaged in interstate commerce, and I renew my recommendation in that behalf.

#### CLAIMS.

I invite the attention of Congress to the great number of claims which, at the Instance of Congress, have been considered by the court of claims and decided to be valid claims against the government. government. The delay that occurs in the payment of the money due under the claims injures the regutation of the government as an honest debtor, and I carnestly recommend that those claims which come to Congress with the judgment and approval of the court of claims should be promptly paid. JUDICIAL PROCEDURE.

One great crying need in the United States is cheapening the cost of litigation by simplifying judicial procedure and expediting final judgment. Under present conditions the poor man is at a woful disadvantage in a legal contest with a corporation or rich opponent. The necessity for the reform exists both The necessity for the reform exists both In the United States courts and in all state courts. In order to bring it about, however, it naturally falls to the general government by its example to furnish a model to all states.

furnish a model to all states.

A legislative commission appointed by resolution of Congress to revise the procedure in the United States courts has as yet made no report.

Under the law, the supreme court of the United States has the power and is given the duty to frame the equity rules of procedure which are to obtain in the federal courts of first instance. In view of the heavy burden Instance. In view of the heavy burden of pressing litigation which that court has had to curry, with one or two of its members incapacitated through ill health, it had not been able to take up problems of improving the equity procedure, which has practically re-mained the same since the organiza-tion of the court in 1789. It is reasonable to expect that with all the vacan cles upon the court filled, it will take up the question of cheapening and sim-plifying the procedure in equity in the courts of the United States. The equity business is much the more im portant in the federal courts, and I may add much the more expensive. I am strongly convinced that the best method of improving judicial procedure at law is to empower the supreme court to do it through the medium o the rules of the court, as in equity. This is the way in which it has been done in England, and thoroughly done. The simplicity and expedition of pro-cedure in the English courts today make a model for the reform of other systems. I cannot conceive any high-er duty than the supreme court could perform than in leading the way to a simplification of procedure in the United States courts.

## RELIEF OF SUPREME COURT.

No man ought to have as a matter of right, a review of his case by the supreme court. He should be satisfied by one hearing before a court of first nstance and one roylew by a court of first instance and one roylew by a court of appeals. The proper and chief usefulness of the supreme court, and especially of the supreme court of the United States, is, in the cases which come before it, so to expound the law, and especially the fundamental law— the Constitution—as to furnish prece-dents for the inferior courts in future litigation and for the executive of ficers in the construction of statutes and the performance of their legal du-ties. Therefore, any provisions for re-view of cases by the supreme court that cast upon that court the duty of passing on questions of evidence and the construction of particular forms of instruments, like indictments, or wills, or contracts, decisions not of general application or importance burden the court and function, which makes it so important a part of the framework of our gov-ernment. The supreme court is now carrying a burden of appeals of this kind, and I earnestly urge that it be

The statutes respecting the review by the supreme court of the United States of decisions of the court of ap peals of the District of Columbia ought to be so amended as to place that court in the same position with respect to the review of its decisions as that of the various United States circuit courts of appeals,

APPEALS IN GOVERNMENT.

The act of March 2, 1907, authorizing appeals by the government from certain judgments in criminal cases where the defendant has not been put in jeopardy, within the meaning of the Constitution, should be amended in order that such appeals should be taken to the circuit courts of appeals instead of to the supreme court in all cases except those involving the con-struction of the Constitution or the constitutionality of a statute, with the same power in the supreme court to review on certiorari as is now ex-ercised by that court over determinations of the several circuit courts of

## The Army of Constipation

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Breut Sood BALLER GARAGES AND SERVICE OF THE SE appeals. Appeals from the United States court in Porto Rico should also run to the circuit courts of appeals of the Third circuit instead of to the supreme court. These suggested changes would, I am advised, relieve the supreme court of the consideration of about 86 cases annual. sideration of about 80 cases annually, and would be in harmony with the theory of review which led to the establishment of the circuit courts of appeals and which I have stated

The American Bar association has had before it the question of reducing the burden of litigation involved in reversals on review and new trials of re-hearings and in frivolous appeals in naheas corpus and criminal cases. Their recommendations have been mbodied in bills now pending in Conriess. The recommendations are not adical, but they will accomplish much if made into law and I carnestly request the passage of the bills mbodying them.

INJUNCTION BILL. I wish to renew my urgent recomnendation made in my last annual lessage in favor of the prospect of law which shall regulate the issuing of injunction in equity without notice in accordance with the best practise now in vogue in the courts of the United States. I regard this of special importance, first because it has promised and second because it will denrice these leprive those who now complain of certain alleged abuses in the improper ssuing of injunctions without notice of any real ground for further amendment and will take away all semblonce of support for the extremely radical legislation there proposed, which will be most pernicous if adopted, will sap the foundations of idicial nower, and legslize that cruel instrument, the secondar JUDICIAL SALARIES.

I further recommend to Congress the passage of the bill now pending for the licrease in the salaries of the federal judges, by which the chief justice of the supreme court shall receive \$17,500 and the associate justices \$ 17,000; the circuit judges constituting the circuit court of appeals shall receive \$10,000, and the district judges \$9,000. The cost of living is such, especially in the large living is such, especially in the large cities, that even the salaries fixed in the proposed bill will enable the in-cumbents to accumulate little. If anyhing, to support their families after heir death.

## POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT.

At its last session Congress made provision for the establishment of sav-ings banks by the postoffice department of this government, by which, under the general control of trustees, consisting of the postmaster-general, the sec-retary of the treasury and the attor-ney-general, the system could be begun in a few cities and towns, and enlarged to cover within its operations, many cities and towns and as large a part of the country as seemed wise. Ar-rangements have been perfected so that savings banks will be opened in some cities and towns on the first of January and there will be a gradual extension of the benefits of the plan to the rest of the country.

WIPING OUT OF POSTAL DEFICIT As I have said, the postoffice department is a great business department and I am glad to note the fact that up der its present management principles of business economy and efficiency are being applied. For many years there has been a deficit in the operations of the postoffice department which has the postomice department which has been met from appropriation by the treasury. The appropriation estimated for last year from the treasury over and above the receipts of the department was \$17,500,000. I am glad to and above the receipts of the department was \$17.509,000. I am glad to record the fact that of that \$17.500,000 estimated for, \$11,500,000 was saved and returned to the treasury. The permutation of the restinguishments reported the restinguishments. sonal efforts of the postmaster-general secured the effective co-operation of the thousands of postmasters and oth-er postal officers throughout the country in carrying out his plans of organization and retrenchment. organization and retrenenment. The result is that the postmaster-general has been able to make his estimate of expenses for the present year so low as to keep within the amount the postal service is expected to earn. It is gratifying to report that the reduc-tion in the deficit has been accomplished without any curtailment of postal facilities. On the contrary, the se has been greatly extended during the year in all its branches.

EXTENSION OF THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE.

Upon the recommendation of the postmaster-general I have included in the classified service all assistant post-masters, and I believe that this giving a secure tenure to those who are the most important subordinates of post-masters will add much to the efficiency of their offices and an economical administration. A large number of the fourth class postmasters are now in the classified service. I think it would be wise to put in the classified service to put in the classified service. be wise to put in the classified service the first, second and third class post-masters. It is more logical to do this than to classify the fourth class post-masters, for the reason that the fourth class postoffices are invariably small, and the postmasters are necessarily men who must combine some other business with the postmastership, whereas the first, second and third class postmasters are paid a sufficient amount to justify the requirement that they shall have are paid a sufficient amount to justify the requirement that they shall have no other business and that they shall devote their attention to their post-office duties. To classify first, second and third class postmasters would require the passage of an act changing the methods of their appointment so as to take away the necessity for the advice and consent of the senate. I am aware that this is inviting from the am aware that this is inviting from the senate a concession in respect to its quasi executive power that is considerable, but I believe it to be in the interest of good administration and effi-ciency of service. To make this change would take the postmasters out of pol-tics; would relieve congressmen who now are burdened with the necessity of making, recommendations. making recommendations making recommendations for these places of responsibility that must be risksome and can create nothing but trouble; and it would result in secur-ing greater attention to business, greater fidelity, and consequently greater which they conduct.

## THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE.

The unrestricted manner in which the franking privilege is now being used by the several federal services and by Congress has laid it open to serious abuses, a fact clearly established through investigations recently instituted by the department. While it has been impossible without a better control of franking to determine the exact expense to the government of this practise, there can be no doubt that it annually reaches into the millions. As the first step in the direction of reform, special stamps and stamped envelopes have been provided for use instead of franks in the free transmission of the official mail resulting from the business of the new postal savings system. By properly ecording the issuance of such stamp and envelopes accurate records can be kept of the cost to the government of handling the postal savings mail, which is certain to become an important item of expense and one that should be exactly determined. In keeping with this plan it is hoped that Congress will authorize the substitution of special official stamps and stamped envelopes for the various forms of franks now used to carry free of postage the vast volume of departmental and congressional mail matter.

SECOND CLASS MAIL MATTER. In my last annual message I invited

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the attention of Congress to the in adequacy of the postal rate imposed as that includes magazines, and showed by figures prepared by experts of the postoffice department that the government was rendering a service to the magazines, costing many millions in excess of the compensation paid. An answer was attempted to this by the representatives of the magazines, and a reply was filed to this answer by the postoffice department. The utter inadequacy of the answer, considered in the light of the reply of the postoffice department, I think must appeal to any fair minded person. Whether the any fair minded person. Whether the answer was all that could be said in behalf of the magazines is another question. I agree that the question is one of fact; but I insist that if the fact is as the experts of the postoffice show, that we are furnishing to the owners of magazines a service worth millions more than they pay for it, then justice requires that the rate should be in-The increase in the receipts of the department resulting from this change may be devoted to increasing the usefulness of the department in establishing a purcels post and in reducing the cost of first class postage to one cent. It has been said by the postmaster-general that a fair adjustment might be made under which the adver-tising part of the magazine should be charged for at a different and higher rate from that of the reading matter. lines that are not circulated at a profit. and would not shut them out from the use of the mails he a prohibitory rate.

PARCELS POST.

With respect to the parcels post, I recommend its adoption on all rural delivery routes and that 11 pounds—the international limit—be made the limit of carriage in such post, and this with view to its general expansion when the income of the postofice will permit it and the postal savings bank shall have been fully established. The same argument is made against the parcels post that was made against the postal avings banks-that it is introducing the government into a business which ought to be conducted by private persons, and is paternalism. The postoffice department has a great plant and a great organization, reaching into the most remote hamlet of the United States and with this machinery it is able to do a great many things economically that If a new organization were necessary it would be impossible to do without extravagant expenditure. That is the reason why the postal savings bank can be carried on at a small additional cost, and why it is possible to incorporate at a very inconsiderable expense parcels post in the rural delivery system. A general parcels post will in-volve a much greater outlay.

## NAVY DEPARTMENT.

In the last annual report of the sec-retary of the mayy and in my annual message, attention was called to the new detail of officers in the navy department by which officers of flag ank were assigned to duty as aides to rank were assigned to duty as aides to the secretary in respect to naval op-erations, personnel, inspection and ma-terial. This change was a substantial compliance with the recommendation of the commission on naval reorganiza-tion, headed by Mr. Justice Moody and submitted to President Roosevelt on Feb. 26, 1909. Through the advice of this committee of line officers, the sec-ratary is able to bring about a prepar retary is able to bring about a proper co-ordination of all the branches of the naval department with greater milltary efficiency. The secretary of the navy recommends that this new organization be realized by legislation and thus be made permanent. I concur in the recommendation.

MAJOR-GENERAL COMMANDING. The secretary, in view of the conclusions of a recent court of inquiry on certain phases of marine corps administration, recommends that the major-general commandant of the marine corps be appointed for a four-year term, and that officers of the adjutant and inspector's department be detailed from the line. He also asks for legislation to improve the conditions now existing in the personnel of officers of the navy, particularly with regard to the age and particularly with regard to the gay and experience of flag officers and captains, and points out that it is essential to the highest efficiency of the navy that the age of our officers be reduced and that flag officers, particularly, should gain proper experience as flag officers, in order to enable them to properly command fleets. I concur in the secretary's recommendations.

## NAVAL SUPPLY FUND.

I commend to your attention the report of the secretary on the change in the system of cost accounting in navy yards, and also to the history of the naval supply fund and the present conditions existing in regard to that matter. Under previous practise, and what now seems to have been an erron-eous construction of the law, the supply fund of the navy was increased from \$2,700,000 to something over \$14,-600,000, and a system of accounting was introduced which prevented the strik-ing of a proper balance and a knowledge of the exact cost of maintaining the naval establishment. The system has now been abandoned, and a naval supply account established by law July 1, 1910. The naval supply fund of \$2,700,000 is now on deposit in the treasry to the credit of the department. The secretary recommends that the naval supply account be made permanent by law, and that the \$2,700,000 of the naval supply fund be covered into the treasury as unnecessary, and I ask for legislative authority to do this. This sum when covered into treasury will be really a reduction in recorded naval cost for this year. The estimates of the navy department are \$5,000,000 less than the appropriations for the same purpose last year, and included in this is the building program of the same amount as that submitted for same amount as that sametest myour consideration last year. It is merely carrying out the plan of building two battleships a year, with a few needed auxiliary vessels. I carnestly hope that this program will be adopted.

ABOLITION OF NAVY YARDS. The secretary of the navy has given personal examination to every navy-yard and has studied the uses of the navy-yard with reference to the necessities of our fleet. With a fleet considerably less than half the size of that of the British navy, we have ship-yards more than double the number, and there are several of these ship-yards, expensively equipped with mod-ern machinery, which after investigation the secretary of the navy believes to be entirely useless for naval purposes. He asks authority to abandon certain of them and to move their machinery to other places where it can be made of use,

The secretary points out that the most important naval base in the West Indies is Guantanamo, in the southwestern part of Cuba. Its geographical situation is admirable and adapted to protect the commercial paths to the Panama canal, and he shows that by the expenditure of less than \$500,000, with the muchbers

which he shall take from other navy-yards, he can create a naval station at yards, he can create a naval station at Guantanamo of sufficient size and equipment to serve the purpose of an emergency naval base. John in the recommendation that he be given the authority which he asks. I unite with the secretary in the recommendation that an appropriation be made to construct a suitable crypt at Annapolis for the custody of the remains of John Paul Jones.

RECOGNITION FOR PEARY.

The complete success of our country in arctic exploration should not remain unnoticed. The unparalleled achievement of Commander Peary in reaching the north pole April 6, 1909, approved by critical examination of the most expert scientists, has added to the distinction of our navy, to which he belongs and reflects credit upon he belongs and reflects creat upon his country. His unique success has received generous acknowledgment from scientific bodies and institutions of learning in Europe and America. I recommend fitting recognition by Congress of the great, achievement of Robert Edwin Peary.

## DEPARTMENT OF

THE INTERIOR

Appeals to court in land cases-The secretary of the interior recommends a change of the law in respect to the procedure in adjudicating claims for lands, by which appeals can be taken from the decisions of the department to the court of appeals of the District of Columbia for a judicial considera-tion of the rights of the claimant. This change finds complete analogy in the present provision for appeals from the decisions of the commissioner of patents. The judgments of the court in such cases would be of decisive value to land claimants generally and to the department of the interior in the administration of the law, would en-able claimants to bring into court the final consideration of issues as to the title to government land and would, I think, obviate a good deal of the subsequent litigation that now arises in our western courts The bill, I lieve, is pending in the house, having been favorably reported from the com-mittee on public lands, and I recom-

mend its enactment.

One of the difficulties in the interior department and in the land office has been the delays attendant upon the consideration by the land office and the secretary of the interior of claims for patents of public lands to individuals. I am glad to say that under the recent appropriations of the Con-gress and the earnest efforts of the secretary and his subordinates, these arrears have been disposed of, and the work of the department has been brought more nearly up to date in re-spect to the pending business than ever before in its history. Economies have been effected where possible vithout legislative assistance and these are shown in the reduced estimates for the expenses of the department luring the current fiscal year and during the year to come,

## CONSERVATION.

The subject of the conservation of he public domain has commanded the attention of the people within the last two or three years.

AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

There is no need for radical reform in the methods of disposing of what are real agricultural lands. The present laws have worked well. The enlarged iomestead law has encouraged the suc cessful farming of lands in the semi-arid regions.

## RECLAMATION.

The total sum already accumulated in the fund provided by the act for the reclamation of arid lands is about \$69,449,058.76 and of this, all but \$6,241,058.76 has been allotted to the various projects, of which there are

for the issuing of certificates of in-debtedness not exceeding \$20,000,000, to be redeemed from the reclama tion fund when the proceeds of lands sold and from the water rents should be sufficient. Meanting in accordance with the provisions of the law I appointed a board of army engineers to examine the projects and to ascertain which are feasible and worthy of com-pletion. That board has made a report upon the subject, which I shall transmit in a separate message within a

TAFT'S CONSERVATION ADDRESS. In September last a conservation congress was held at St. Paul, at which I delivered an address on the subject of conservation so far as it was within the jurisdistion and possible action of the federal government. In that address I assembled from the official records the statistics and facts what had been done in this behalf in the administration of my predecessor and in my own, and indicated the legislative measures which I believed to be wise in order to secure the best use, in the public interest, of what remains of our national domain. There was in this address a very full discussion of the reasons which led me to the conclusions stated. For the purpose of hav-ing in an official record a comparative and comprehensive resume of the statistics and facts gathered with some difficulty in that address, and to avoid their repetition in the body of this message. I venture to make the address an accompanying appendix. The statistics are corrected to Nov. 15 last.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS. For the reasons stated in the con-

A child with good teeth and foul breath needs immediate care. Give it Kickapoo Worm Killer (the nice tasting candy lozenges) and see how quickly that bad breath becomes sweet. Notice how much happier the child is and how its health improves. You will be astonished and delighted. Price, 25c., sold by druggists every-

where and by SCHRAMM-JOHNSON, DRUGS.

The Never Substitutors Five Stores. Where the Cars Ston

First, that the limitation now imed upon the executive which for-s his reserving more forest lands in gon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, lorado and Wyoming, be repealed.

## COAL DEPOSITS.

Second, that the coal deposits of the government be leased after advertise-ment inviting competitive bids, for ding 50 years, with a land royalties upon the be readjusted every 10 terms not exoal mine with conditions as to naintenance which will secure proper nining and as to assignment which will prevent combinations to monopolize control of the coal in any one district or market. I do not think that coal meas-ures under 2,500 acres of surface would be too large an amount to lease to any

#### PHOSPHATE LANDS.

Third, that the law should provide the same separation in respect to govern-ment phosphate lands of surface and mineral rights that now obtains in coal ands, and that power to lease such lands upon terms and limitations simllar to those above recommended for coal leases, with an added condition enabling the government to regulate and if need be, to prohibit, the export to foreign countries of the product.

#### OIL PROSPECTING.

Fourth, that the law should allow a prospector for oil or gas to have the right to prospect for two years over a certain tract of government land, the right to be evidenced by a license for which he shall pay a small sum, and that upon discovery, a lease may be granted upon terms securing a minimum rental and proper royalties to the government and also the conduct of the oil or gas well in accord with the best method for husbanding the supply of oil in the district. The period of the leases should not be as long as those of coal, but they should contain similar provisions as to assignment so as to prevent monopolistic combinations.

## WATER POWER SITES.

Fifth, that water power sites be directly leased by the federal govern-ment, after advertisement and bidding, for not exceeding 50 years upon a proper rental and with a condition fixing dates charged to the public for units of electric power, both rental and rates to be readjusted equitably every 10 years by arbitration or otherwise, with suitable provisions against assignment to prevent monopolistic combinations. Or that the law shall provide that upon application made by the authorities of the state where the water power site is situated, it may be patented to the state on condition that the state shall dispose of it under terms like those just de-scribed, and shall enforce those terms, or upon failure to comply with the conditions the water power site and all the plant and improvement on the site shall be forfeited and revert to the United States, the president being given the power to declare the forfeiture and to direct legal proceedings for its en-forcement. Either of these methods would, I think, accomplish the proper public purpose in respect to water power sites, but one or the other should be promptly adopted.

CONSERVATION LEGISLATION.

I earnestly urge upon Congress that at this session general conservation legislation of the character indicated be adopted. At its last session this Congress took most useful and proper steps in the cause of conservation by allowing the executive, through withdraw-als, to suspend the action of the existing laws in respect to much of the pubthe danger of disposing of coal lands in the United States under the present laws in large quantities was so great as to call for their withdrawal, because under the present provisions it is reasonably certain that the government will receive the real value of the land. But, in respect to oil lands, or phosphate lands, and of gas lands in the United States, and in respect to coal lands in Alaska, I have exercised the full power of withdrawal with the hope that the action of Congress would follow promptly and prevent that tying up of the resources of the country in the western and less sparsely settled portions and in Alaska, which means

stagnation and retrogression. The question of conservation is not a partisan one, and I sincerely hope that even in the short time of the present session consideration may be given to those questions which have now been much discussed, and that action may be

## ALASKA..

In reference to the government of Alaska I have nothing to add to (Continued on page five.)

# DECRIMINATION WINS III

In every walk in life discrimination between the true and the false wins and enjoys success. In questions of form, of style and of values, whether financial, commercial or medicinal, the judgement of the men and women who select and appreciate and utilize the true and genuine product, proves most profitable and most satisfactory to themselves and to all who follow them.

Therefore, in connection with so important a subject as the physical well-being of the people, the most eminent physicians insist on full information as to the wholesome nature and truly beneficial character of the component parts of the remedies used and prescribed by them, and the wise manufacturer not only supplies them with the knowledge desired, but also combines for them in proper proportions the very substances most approved by them and omits every objectionable substance. The world-wide acceptance of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna by physicians and the well-informed of the world, as the best of family laxatives, is due to the universal satisfaction which it has given for more than a quarter of a century and also to the fact that it is a remedy of known quality and known component parts and to the further fact that the California Fig Syrup Co. presents it to the world simply as the ideal strengthening personal laxative to cleanse and sweeten the system gently, yet effectually, and to dispel colds and headaches and to assist in overcoming constipation. To get its beneficial effects - always buy the original and genuine, for sale by all leading druggists. The full name of the company - California Fig Syrup Co .- is always plainly printed on the front of every package.

> st and 2nd. acy 9th, 1911.